



Bitterroot National Forest

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“No Changes in Fire Activity on the Bitterroot”

Hamilton, Montana, September 7, 2006 — Little change in fire activity was reported on the Bitterroot National Forest today.

The Gash Creek Fire continues to burn interior pockets of unburned material, but there has been no increase in overall size of the fire. Acreage is currently estimated at 8400 acres, with a dozen people staffing the fire.

Staff members from the West Fork Ranger District are flying over the wildland fire use fires currently burning in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness area today. We should have updated information about sizes and activity for tomorrow's news. The lightning storm that based over the Wilderness Area earlier today ignited one new Wildland Fire Use fire near Blue Joint. The Beaver Fire, a small fire started across the river from the West Fork Ranger Station, was contained at ½ acre in size.

Fire weather projections call for cooler and breezy conditions over the weekend.

Bow Hunters and other outdoor recreationists should note that Stage II Fire Restrictions are still in place.

The Ravalli County Air Quality Hotline at 406-375-6679 provides recommendations for residents who are impacted by the smoke in the valley..

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